



**LAC
DMH**
LOS ANGELES COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF
MENTAL HEALTH

LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH
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February 19, 2013

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Marvin J. Southard, D.S.W.
Director

SUBJECT: **PSYCHIATRIC MOBILE RESPONSE TEAMS**

The Department of Mental Health (DMH) Emergency Outreach Bureau (EOB) operates a Field Response Operations (FRO) unit responsible for providing a range of psychiatric and emergency services to individuals and families in acute emotional distress. Services are available from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. seven days per week. FRO provides services from 2 a.m. to 6 a.m. on a case-by-case basis as resources allow.

FRO provides a range of services listed in Attachment I. Services include field assessments for suicide/homicide/grave disability, emergency response to critical incidents or mass casualty events, homeless outreach, DCFS minors, and collaboration with law enforcement agencies on high profile individuals or situations.

FRO is comprised of a multidisciplinary team of licensed mental health professionals trained in suicide and violence threat risk assessment. FRO has a Psychiatric Mobile Response Team (PMRT) in each Service Area. Although each team is assigned to a specific Service Area, PMRT staff is routinely re-assigned throughout the county on a daily basis to ensure timely response. FRO has a partnership with several law enforcement agencies providing similar services as described above but with a focus on 911 calls and patrol car requests for assistance with individuals who are emotionally distressed, homeless, or suffering from a severe and persistent mental illness. Law Enforcement Teams (LET) offer a co-response field team where a DMH clinician is paired with a law enforcement officer.

A total of 214 clinical staff provides field services through FRO (Attachment II). A smaller group from this pool of clinicians have collateral assignments in the specialty programs listed in Attachment I. The Mental Health Alert Team (MHAT) is composed of 8 clinicians who provide mental health resources to local law enforcement Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT). CNT typically responds to Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) call-outs, barricade, and jumper situations.

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The Special Prevention Unit (SPU) is a collateral assignment composed of 7 clinicians providing case management and monitoring of high risk persons who have made or pose a threat to elected officials and other high profile persons.

If you have any questions, please call me at (213) 738-4601, or your staff may contact Dr. Tony Beliz, Deputy Director, at (213) 738-4924 or via e-mail at Tbeliz@dmh.lacounty.gov.

MJS:RK:TB:mb

Attachments

c: William T Fujioka, CEO

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH-EMERGENCY OUTREACH BUREAU FIELD RESPONSE OPERATIONS

Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT)

Psychiatric Mobile Response Teams (PMRT) consist of DMH licensed clinical staff assigned to a specific Service Area in Los Angeles County. Teams have legal authority per Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) 5150 and 5585 to perform evaluations for involuntary detention of individuals determined to be at risk of harming themselves or others or who are unable to provide food, clothing, or shelter as a result of a mental disorder.

Law Enforcement Teams (LET)

This co-response model pairs a DMH clinician with a law enforcement officer to provide field response to situations involving mentally ill, violent or high risk individuals. Primary mission is to provide 911 response to community requests or patrol officer requests for service. Teams also assist PMRT as resources permit. Current programs:

- Santa Monica Police Department Homeless Liaison Program (HLP)
- Burbank Police Department Mental Health Evaluation Team (BMET)
- Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Mental Evaluation Team (MET)
- Long Beach Police Department Mental Evaluation Team (Long Beach MET)
- Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transit Authority Crisis Response Unit (CRU)
- Pasadena Police Department Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluations (HOPE)
- Los Angeles Police Department Case Assessment and Management Program (CAMP)
- Los Angeles Police Department Systemwide Mental Assessment Response Team (SMART)

School Threat Assessment and Response Team (START)

START provides threat prevention and management services to educational institutions in collaboration with school districts, colleges, universities and technical school, and local, county, and Federal law enforcement agencies. The program provides services designed to prevent targeted school violence.

Homeless Outreach Mobile Engagement (HOME)

HOME provides countywide field based outreach and engagement services as well as intensive case management to underserved and overlooked homeless persons who are mentally ill, living in homeless encampments, and in other locations where outreach is not provided in a concentrated manner or readily available.

Mental Health Alert Team (MHAT)

MHAT collaborates with federal and local law enforcement agencies to provide mental health response to SWAT call-outs. Clinical staff collaborate with law enforcement in facilitating a negotiated solution to barricade and hostage situations.

Special Prevention Unit (SPU)

SPU provides collaboration with federal and local law enforcement agencies to mitigate threats, decrease use of the 911 system and provide linkage and case management to the mental health system. SPU addresses persons of concern including 911 high utilizers, chronic callers to public figures, suicide-by-cop issues.

Emergency Response Teams (ERT)

Emergency Response Teams (ERT) are comprised of DMH staff that provide field response to critical incidents such as school violence, earthquakes, or acts of terror. ERT provides on-scene consultation and crisis intervention to survivors, their families, first responders, and the community. ERT collaborates with the LA County Office of Emergency Management and the LA City Office of Emergency Management.

Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT)

Homeless Outreach Teams (HOT) are comprised of PMRT staff providing outreach and engagement to mentally ill homeless persons. HOT increases the likelihood of effective outcomes for this population in situations when they are at risk of involuntary hospitalization.

Psychiatric Emergency Teams (PET)

Psychiatric Emergency Teams (PET) are mobile teams operated by psychiatric hospitals approved by the Department of Mental Health to provide 5150 and 5585 evaluations. Team members are licensed mental health clinicians. PET operates similar to PMRT and provides additional resources in specific geographical regions.

DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH EMERGENCY OUTREACH BUREAU		
Homeless Outreach & Law Enforcement Team		
	DAYTIME STAFF	
Programs	Supervisors	Total Staff + Supv
PMRT SA 1	1	7
PMRT SA 2	1	9
PMRT SA 3	1	12
PMRT SA 4	1	8
PMRT SA 5	1	5
PMRT SA 6	1	7
PMRT SA 7	1	11
PMRT SA 8	1	7
Burbank MHET	0	1
CAMP	1	7
HOME	1	9
HOPE	0	2
LBMET	1	5
MET	0	4
MTA/CRU	0	2
SMART	2	17
START	2	10
TOTAL	<u>15</u>	<u>123</u>
STAFF		
Total After hours Staff	Total Daytime Staff	Total Daytime & After hours Staff
91	123	214